

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~The safety buckle of claim 2,~~ A safety buckle comprising:
a substantially flat elongated body comprising a first distal end opposite to a second distal
end, the elongated body having a front surface and a back surface such that the first and second
distal ends are bent backwards to form an approximately obtuse angle with the back surface; and
first, second and third slots, respectively formed in the elongated body, wherein the first,
second and third slots are approximately parallel in direction to each other, so that a first blade is
formed between the first and second slots,
wherein the second and third slots are configured to receive a first end of a strap by way
the first end being tied around the second blade;
wherein the first and second slots are configured to receive a second opposite end of the
strap by way of the second end being wrapped around the first blade;
wherein the third slot is further configured to receive the second end of the strap after the
second end is wrapped around the first blade; and
wherein the second end of the strap is wrapped over a top portion of the first and second
slots before it is received by the third slot.

Claim 4 (original): The safety buckle of claim 3, wherein the first distal end acts as a locking point on the second end of the strap to apply pressure and limit movement of the strap within the first and second slots.

Claim 5 (original): The safety buckle of claim 4, wherein the second end of the strap after being received by the third slot engages the second distal end.

Claim 6 (original): The safety buckle of claim 5, wherein the second distal end acts as a locking point on the second end of the strap to apply pressure and limit movement of the strap within the third slot.

Claim 7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~The safety buckle of claim 7,~~ A safety buckle comprising:
a substantially flat elongated body comprising a first distal end opposite to a second distal
end, the elongated body having a front surface and a back surface such that the first and second
distal ends are bent backwards to form an approximately 125 degrees obtuse angle with the back
surface; and
first, second and third slots, respectively formed in the elongated body, wherein the first,
second and third elongated slots are approximately parallel in direction to each other, so that a
first blade is formed between the first and second slots, and a second blade is formed between the
second and third slots;

wherein the second and third elongated slots are configured to receive a first end of a strap by way the first end being tied around the second blade, and

wherein the first and second elongated slots are configured to receive a second opposite end of the strap by way of the second end being wrapped around the first blade; and

wherein the third elongated slot is further configured to receive the second end of the strap after the second end of the strap is wrapped around the first blade, and wherein the second end of the strap is wrapped over a top portion of the first and second elongated slots before it is received by the third elongated slot.

Claim 9 (original): The safety buckle of claim 8, wherein the first distal end acts as a locking point on the second end of the strap to apply pressure and limit movement of the strap within the first and second elongated slots, and wherein the second end of the strap after being received by the third elongated slot engages the second distal end.

Claim 10 (original): The safety buckle of claim 9, wherein the second distal end acts as a locking point on the second end of the strap to apply pressure and limit movement of strap within the third elongated slot.